CLAIMS

1. Belt for use in a continuously variable transmission, in particular for automotive application, comprising at least one set of nested metal rings, the set interacting with transverse elements provided slidably along the set, and the rings of the set being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings, characterised in, that for at least the majority of said pairs of adjacent rings the nominal value of said play is zero.

2. Belt according to claim 1, characterised in, that the nominal value of zero is realised by a tolerance of 0.00005 times the outer diameter of the inner ring of a relevant pair of rings, plus or minus of said diameter.

3. Belt according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in, that said mutual play between the innermost pair of adjacent rings is of negative value.

4. Belt according to claim 3, characterised in, that the outer diameter of the innermost ring is of a value (1-Z) times the inner diameter of the adjacent ring, Z being of a value smaller than 0.0008.

5. Belt according to claim 4, characterised in, that Z is of a value greater than 0.0001.

6. Belt according to any of the preceding claims, characterised in, that the mutual play of the outermost pair of adjacent rings is of positive value.

7. Belt according to claim 6, characterised in, that the inner diameter of the outermost ring is of a value (1+Y) times the outer diameter of the adjacent ring, Y being of a value smaller than 0.0004.

8. Belt according to claim 7, characterised in, that Y is of a value greater than 0.00005.

9. Belt, in particular according to any of the preceding claims, for use in a continuously variable transmission, in particular for automotive application, comprising at least one set of nested metal rings, the set interacting with transverse elements provided slidably along the set, and the rings of the set being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings, characterised in, that said mutual play of the outermost pair of adjacent rings is of positive value.

10. Belt, in particular according to any of the preceding claims, for use in a continuously variable transmission, in particular for automotive application, comprising at least one set of nested metal rings, the set interacting with transverse elements provided slidably along the set, and the rings of the set being accommodated with

small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings, characterised in, that the thickness of one or both of the innermost and the outermost ring of the set is significantly less than the nominal thickness of in-between rings of the set.

11. Belt according to claim 10, characterised in, that the thickness of said innermost or said outermost ring is at least lower than twenty percent (20%) of the average value of the thickness of the in-between rings.

12. Belt, in particular according to any of the preceding claims, for use in a continuously variable transmission, in particular for automotive application, comprising at least one set of nested metal rings, the set interacting with transverse elements provided slidably along the set, and the rings of the set being accommodated with small mutual play between each pair of adjacent rings, characterised in, that the material composition of at least one of the innermost and the outermost ring of the set significantly differs from that of the in-between rings of the set, such that the elasticity modulus thereof is significantly lower than that of in-between positioned rings.

13. Belt according to claim 12, characterised in, that the elasticity modulus of said innermost and said outermost ring is at least twenty percent (20%) less than the average value of the elasticity moduluses of the in-between rings.

14. Continuously variable transmission provided with a belt according to any of the preceding claims.